



Too much slash and burn

Re: **Environment Canada cuts put public at risk, critics say, Aug. 5**

The Harper government's slashing of 776 positions in Environment Canada is a national calamity. There's never been a time in history when a focus on the environment has been more critical, and Canada's response is disgraceful and continues to grow worse. A report last week from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives points out that under the Kyoto Protocol, Canada pledged to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions 6 per cent by 2012. Now, under the new Canadian government targets, by 2020 we might achieve a 33 per cent increase, and given government inaction they will probably soar by 44 per cent! Any Canadian commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions has gone up in smoke. We've squandered every vestige of the good environmental reputation Canada once had.

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